

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the second paragraph on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

The flow elements 12, 14 are respectively formed by two perforated plates 18, 19 that are arranged on top of one another and can be moved relative to one another. Figure 2 shows the flow element 14 according to Figure 1 in the form of a top view along the line II-II. The perforated plates 18, 19 are realized in the form of screen plates and contain a plurality of uniformly distributed openings 20. The largest opening cross section possible is adjusted when the perforated plates 18, 19 or the openings 20 of the two perforated plates 18, 19, respectively, are arranged on top of one another in a precisely fitted fashion. The opening cross section can be varied by displacing the perforated plate 18 relative to the perforated plate 19, e.g., using a turning device 30. This makes it possible to adjust different opening cross sections and consequently different flow speeds over the entire surface of the flow element 14. A device 31 can be provided to effectuate relative movement of the perforated plates of the flow element 12.